Question proposed: *That the supplementary demand asked for be granted.*

Question put and agreed to.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Poll, Sir.

The House divided: Ayes 24, Noes 3 and Neutrals 8.

Ayes.

1.	Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon	13.	Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai
2.	,, K. Ayyappan	14.	Mr. C. J. Mathew
3.	,, P. C. Chanchan	15.	,, K. Mohamed Seethi
4.	,, A. Eachara Menon	16.	,, P. Nilakanta Menon
5.	,, A. S. Harihara Ayyar	17.	Mrs. G. Pavitran
6.	,, V. K. Kochunni Menon	18.	Mr. T. V. Ramalinga Ayyar
7.	,, S. S. Koder	19.	Rama Varmha Tampuran
8.	,, T. K. Krishna Menon	20.	Mr. K. Ramunni Menon
9.	,, T. M. Krishna Menon	21.	,, A. Sankara Menon
10.	,, K. Krishna Pisharodi	22.	,, Thomas Manjuran
11.	,, A. K. Kunhi Moideen	23.	Dr. E. A. Veigas
12.	,, C. V. Kuriyan	24.	Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.

Noes.

1.	Mr. P. Krishna Menon	3.	Mr. A. B. Salem.
2.	,, P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan		

Neutrals.

1.	Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar	5.	Mr. T. K. Nayar
2.	,, K. J. Antony	6.	,, V. D. Ouseph
3.	,, C. Barton Wright	7.	,, T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar
4.	,, K. P. Kannan Nayar	8.	,, M. K. Raman.

5. XXXI—Uplift of the Depressed Classes—Rs. 12,000.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 12,000 under 'XXXI—Uplift of the Depressed Classes.' The necessity for this additional grant has arisen on account of increase in the number of Depressed Class schools and of pupils that are attending these schools. When the budget for 1104 was framed, the number of pupils was only a little more than 11,000 and less than 12,000. During this educational year the number has increased to about 14,000. So, there is an increase of more than 2,000 in the number of Depressed Class pupils that are attending our State schools. These pupils have to be given special help in the way of books, slates, clothes and other articles, and they should be fed once a week. All that

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means additional expenditure. Then there is also the fact that this educational year we have opened a larger number of schools specially intended for Depressed Classes. We had only 70 schools when the budget was framed, and now the number is 85. In these schools we have a predominant element of Depressed Classes and they all come in the D epressed Class Budget. It is on account of the increase in the number of pupils and the larger number of such schools that the necessity has arisen for the additional grant. I may also say that we expect a further increase in strength at the reopening of schools for the next academical year. And we are providing for the possible increase during the next educational year also. I have no doubt that, considering the purpose for which this increased grant is asked, this House would be quite pleased to sanction the grant for which I ask the indulgence of this House.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is the number of girls of the Depressed Classes now in the schools?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I cannot give the exact figures, but it may be about one-third of the total strength. The total at the beginning of this educational year was 14,000 and after the recent Navarathri admissions the total number may be 15,000. Of these about one-third will be girls.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The educational year begins about the end of Edavam.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—About the end of May. Last year it was 11,000 as against 14,000 this year.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—But the increase is only 2,000.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is in the course of the year.

But the budget was framed before May. Then it was less than 12,000.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What will be the number of girls in these schools?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I cannot exactly give the figures. But it will be about one-third of the total strength.

President.—We have got 2 cut motions.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,000 for XXXI-Uplift of the Depressed Classes—B-Education by Re. 1.*

President.—The first motion stands in the name of Mr. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Sir, the object with which I have tabled this token motion is to press upon the

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authorities the rather unsatisfactory way in which this item of expenditure is being incurred by the Government. Not that I object to any amount of money being spent upon these suppressed brethren of ours. My complaint is that the amount is not properly utilised. The supplementary grant asked for is an amount of 12,000 rupees under two headings, the feeding of Pulaya pupils and also supplying lights to the schools specially intended for them.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Feeding includes clothes, books, slates and other articles.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I do understand that. An amount of very nearly 33,000 rupees has already been budgetted for this item, and this House has granted that amount. With this additional amount we will come to 45,000 rupees. If this amount is not properly utilised, if the persons to be benefited by this large amount spent by the Government are not really the Pulaya boys, then certainly our voting for this amount will not be proper. What I urge is that from experience I have known that in various institutions the amount, that is being ear-marked for the feeding of Pulaya children or the supply of school materials to these children, does not really reach these children. It is certainly a very sorrowful state of affairs. In many instances the purpose for which the amount is spent is not satisfied. True it feeds, it clothes, it gives light, but not the Pulaya pupils but some intermediaries.

President.—Is there any example forthcoming to show the diversion of the fund?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I refuse, Sir, to give out names. There are institutions and schools—and some of them I know have come to the knowledge of the Departmental Head also—where there is misappropriation of these articles by the intermediaries. They do not reach the Pulaya pupils. My only point is that the Department should be able to exercise greater vigilance in the matter of seeing that the articles supplied by the Government do really reach the pupils concerned. It is only with that view that I have tabled this motion. If this is not properly utilised, it is money ill-spent. I wish to hear the Government view.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.— As the Member pointed out, there have been cases, and that shows that the Department is vigilant. Whenever cases are detected, the Department takes very strict measures. I do not say it is possible for the Department to reach everywhere. But there is no lack of vigilance on the part of the Department, and the Department is very wide awake in this matter. We have got the inspecting staff of the Department, and all these schools are also supervised by the

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local Panchayats. What I would like to place before the House is that sufficient safeguards have been provided. The Panchayat is a local body on the spot. If they cannot detect, you cannot find fault with the Department.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What do you mean by 'detection'?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—For instance, there are places where we are having poor feeding. I recall the case of a Manager managing three Night schools for Pulayas, and he used to submit bills for Rs. 300 and Rs. 400 monthly. We got a hint, we watched him carefully, and we found there was fraud. The result was that we removed all these schools from the aided list, and that was all that was possible to do. And now, instead of daily feeding, we have it only once a week. It is very difficult to check it. A school is supposed to feed 100 or 120 pupils, but when you go there, you find only 50 or 60. And the Manager would say it was due to some special cause on that particular day. So what we do is to ask the Inspecting Officers to watch suspicious schools. The Inspecting Officer goes there, and if he finds great disparity between the strength and the attendance, he gives a warning. A second time, if the same thing is repeated, we cut down the grant. A third time also if there is no improvement, the school is removed from the list.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—If the grant is stopped, that will affect the students.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We cannot help it. We punish the corrupt and induce some other men to start schools.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—How many Government schools have we got for these Depressed Classes and how many grant-in-aid schools?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—In all about 85 Depressed Classes schools.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—How many aided and how many Government?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—All but 5 are aided.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—മതം മാറിയാലും ഈ സഹായമുണ്ടോ?

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബ് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—ഗവൺമെണ്ടു രൂപം ഇതാണ്. സ്കൂളിൽ ചേരുമ്പോൾ വേറെ മതമാണെങ്കിൽ ഒന്നും കൊടുക്കുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ സ്കൂളിൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന കാലത്തു മതം മാറുകയാണെങ്കിൽ സ്കൂളിൽ പഠിക്കുന്ന കാലത്തോളം ഈ സഹായം കൊടുക്കുന്നതാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ആ അഭിപ്രായത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചാണ് ഒരു വാക്കു പറവാനുള്ളതു്. ഈ പണം പലതും ദുർവ്യയം ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ടല്ലൊ. എന്നാൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നു തന്നെ ഈ സംഖ്യ ശരിയായി ചിലവാക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു തെളിയുന്നു. ഈ സംഖ്യ Depressed Classes-ന്നു കൊടുക്കാനാണെങ്കിൽ അവക്കു മാത്രമെ കൊടുക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു. ഇതൊരു poor fund ആണെങ്കിൽ എതു ദരിദ്ര വിദ്യാർത്ഥിക്കും കൊടുക്കാം. അല്ലാതെ മതം

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മാറിയാൽ പിന്നെ കൊടുക്കുന്നതെന്തിനു്? Depressed Class വിദ്യാർത്ഥി കപോ മതം മാറിയാൽ പിന്നെ ആ class-ൽ പെടുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നാണു ചോദ്യം. മതം മാറിയാൽ പിന്നെ ഒരൊറ്റ ദിവസമെങ്കിലും അവർക്കു ഈ സംഖ്യ കൊടുക്കരുതെന്നാണെനിക്കു പറവാനുള്ളതു്.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—What is the definition of the word Depressed Classes'?

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—Depressed Classes ആരെല്ലാമാണെന്നു പറയാമൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—എനിക്കറിയില്ല.

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബു് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—പുലയർ, പറയർ ഉള്ളാടൻ തുടങ്ങിയ നു ക്ലാസ്സാണു് *Education Code*-ൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

President.—Are these sub-divisions founded on religion?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Christians, Muslims and Brahmins are not Depressed Classes.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Are the Hindus Depressed Classes?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—No.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ഈ ചോദ്യത്തിൽ നിന്നു എന്റെ സംശതി കുറെക്കൂടി വെളിവായി. ഇങ്ങിനെ ജാതി മാറിയാൽ പിന്നെ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ന്യായമില്ല. ആറു ജാതിക്കാർ മാത്രമെ Depressed Class-ൽ പെടുന്നുള്ളു എന്നു പറഞ്ഞുവല്ലൊ. സംഖ്യ അവക്കല്ലാതെ മറെറ ചിലക്കു പോകുന്ന സംശതിയാണു് ഇവിടെ പറയുന്നതു്. ഇതു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നു ചെയ്യുന്ന ഒരു പരമ ആബദ്ധമാണു്.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I would like to know whether the Department would call a Pulaya who has been converted still a Pulaya.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—If he becomes a Christian, he is called a Christian.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—There may be Pulaya Christians.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I should like to know, suppose in the course of the year a Pulaya changes his religion, do you show his religion in the register still as a Pulaya.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We do not. We extend this concession to him because he was already on the rolls. When once he changes his religion he is no longer a Pulaya.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—If he becomes a Christian or a Muslim, we don't call him a Pulaya or Paraya.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I may say that this is a question that has exercised the mind of Government from a long time.

The difficulty is this. We have been receiving petitions from ever so many individuals and communities, and they have been basing their claim on what is obtaining in Travancore and British, and it is in consideration of the practice in adjoining territories, in Travancore and British India, that we adopted

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this rule. I may say we have not gone the length of Travancore and British India. In Travancore even after conversion the Depressed Class pupil enjoys all the concessions he was enjoying before. That is, as per the Travancore rule, even if he joins the school as a convert, he is given all the concessions. And Government took into consideration what was obtaining outside, and then it was that a slight modification was made. But even now they say that we are much less liberal than Travancore and British India in this respect.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Why was that slight modification made?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Because we thought that something had to be done. Government considered the question and thought that at least this modification was called for.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സർ, ഹിന്ദുമതത്തിനൊ ക്രിസ്തുമതത്തിനൊ വേണ്ടിയല്ല ഈ ഗ്രാൻറ്. അധഃകൃത വർഗ്ഗക്കാർ പഠിക്കുന്ന കാലത്തു തങ്ങളുടെ രക്ഷക്കു വേറെയൊരു വഴിക്കൂടി എടുത്താൽ അതിനെ വിരോധിക്കുന്നതെന്തിനു? പുലയർ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളായാലും അവർക്കും ഈ സഹായം കൊടുക്കാൻ തന്നെയായിരിക്കണം ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിൻെറ നയം. പുലയർ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളായാൽ ഈ ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നവർ—പുലയർ ഹിന്ദുമതത്തിൽ ചേർന്നവരാണെന്നു പറയുന്നവർ—അവർ ക്രിസ്തുമതത്തിൽ ചേരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ആമതത്തിലെ ജനസംഖ്യ വർദ്ധിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള പേടികൊണ്ടായിരിക്കാം അങ്ങിനെ പറയുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ക്രിസ്തുമതത്തിൽ ചേരുന്നതാണു് അവർക്കു രക്ഷ എങ്കിൽ ആ രക്ഷകിട്ടുന്നതിനു തടസ്ഥം പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമൊന്നുമില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

President.—I would like to know whether Mr. Kumaran Ezhuthassan presses his motion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I don't wish to press it.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 12,000 for XXXI—Uplift of the Depressed Classes.*

President.—Then Mr. Salem has a cut motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I wish to know out of the 70 non-Government schools, how many are missionary schools and how many non-missionary.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—By missionary do you mean a church school? It is not a missionary school.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We have got church schools as well as schools managed by Hindus. I shall give you correct figures. More than half are Church schools.

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President.—Is yours a total cut?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes. Doesn't matter.

President.—But the result is going to be seen by ultimately withdrawing.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I would like to point out that, in the budget on page 81, 31—Uplift of the Depressed Classes, the amount for girls' schools is only—both secondary and primary included—Rs. 4,100 while the amount for uplift was Rs. 27,500.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—All these are primary schools. The great bulk of these schools are mixed schools, that is, girls are admitted into all these schools. We have only a select number of schools which are called girls' schools. Even there boys are admitted. But the majority of pupils will be girls, and they are under the Inspectress of Schools.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—So that what will be their proportion?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—One-third will be girls.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Apart from all that, what I wish to bring out is that we have got 85 schools intended solely for the Depressed Classes. How many of these are Night schools, because you want 600 rupees for the lighting department?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—About 20 would be Night Schools.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is the cost of lighting a Night School?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The cost of lighting will depend upon the number of classes in a school. We supply a light for so many pupils of one class, and then we supply lanterns to them for their coming and going in the dark.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We find in the budget 1,700 rupees was provided last year. At the time when the budget was framed 600 rupees more could have been provided. So, on what basis was that 1,700 arrived at?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Members may not know the difficulty the Department has when it frames its budget. The schools are re-opened only after we send up our budget, so that, we have to go by conjecture.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What I am asking is, on what ground you are asking 600 rupees more? For how many lights and for how many schools do you want this?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That will depend upon the number of classes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—In any school you will not have more than 4 classes.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—But there may be divisions. Ordinarily we do not have more than 3 classes.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—So that, if I take 4 lamps for each school, that should be sufficient.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We want 4 lamps inside the schools. These boys have to come and go in the dark from distant places. It is for this that for a dozen or so of boys coming from the same locality we give a lantern.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—All that I wanted to emphasise is the same point, that the money should not be frittered away.

President.—Where has this misappropriation taken place? You need not give the names of persons. This sort of swindling that is going on with regard to Government money should be put a stop to.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is what we want to emphasise.

President.—There may be some tricks here and there. For example, there may be 15 boys in a school. They will represent that there is a larger number, 30 boys. That is one mode of misappropriating money. The boys may be regularly attending schools. But instead of the whole money being given to them, half the money will go to the masapady or to some other persons. These things are likely to take place. These are all from schools. Then there are special works also, such as the digging of tanks and wells.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—These are generally for feeding. Is this 11,000 rupees required for feeding?

President.—Do you mean to say that the number is exaggerated?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What I wish to bring out is the same. It is impossible for the Government Department to check all these things of fraud, because it will be a physical impossibility. We have got only a very limited number of Inspecting Officers. It is impossible for them to find out all these things. Therefore, the only way of doing it is by means of devising some system in which there may not be these evils.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The best agency is the local Panchayats. The Panchayat must come for that.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That statement has already been made. That is why I say why not form little Panchayat Committees and Education Committees to look after this feeding. I understand that this feeding is not by means of cooking. It is by means of doling out money. But where there are only two or three, we can give them in cash. It is only once a week that payment is made to a boy who has attended for four days. If this is done, after all the difficulty pointed out by the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri can easily be solved. There is only feeding once in five days, in a month, there will be only five feedings, and if

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people cannot be found in the localities where the schools are located for attending to this for five days in a month, then I say that the blame must be upon the people than upon the Department. If people come forward, then certainly this money cannot be filtered.

But I have got another case, that most of these schools are grant-in-aid.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.— There are grant-in-aid schools and Government schools.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Now, if you make these schools for Depressed Classes entirely Government, you may be paying only an additional sum of two annas in the rupee.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—But there is the question of accommodation.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—As regards accommodation, this is where I join issues with the Hon'ble Member for Education. An experiment has been well carried out in Madras where ordinary cadjan leaves buildings with a nice cow dung floor have been found fit for these schools. They are not tiled.

President.—You must look to the climatic conditions of the Cochin State and Madras.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We know that the Pulayas are strong enough for that. They use to stand in the water for nearly 8 or 10 hours. So there is no difficulty with regard to that. What I submit is; apart from the question of having a few cadjan sheds, buildings are put up for the schools, and a greater portion of the money has been spent as Sirkar money on this. Therefore, I submit that, if you convert these schools into Government schools, then there will be no charge that these are Christian schools and are schools intended for the purpose of educating and converting.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—There is no such charge.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Perhaps not for converting as Jews!

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I make this statement here. In Synagogues we do not proselytise. But, if you want to become a Jew, we are ready to allow you to join us. A Mahomadan is equally anxious like the Christian to convert them, and the Hindus are equally anxious to hug them on. Anyway Government is earmarking large sums for the uplift of the Depressed Classes. Government at first cut down the amount that the Director wanted, and now a demand is made for 12 thousand rupees, and this House is certainly giving him money. We won't stand in the way of giving money to the Depressed Classes. But we want these Depressed Classes to be elevated in their own community.

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Let him not understand that he is a Pulaya-but let him understand that he is as good as a Brahman. Let us try to create such kinds of ideas in him. He has also got two eyes and hands and all other organs that a Brahman or any other high caste man has. If he wants to change his religion, let him change with all conscience. I am on the point that the Government must manage these schools themselves and not make them grant-in-aid. No amount of money worth saying is necessary. The only expenditure that the Government will have to incur is for putting some sheds. If the Government has not got the resources for the same, and if the Government make an appeal, there will be people to contribute and thus help the Government in the matter. Government will not be then charged of helping certain people. There will be no room for all these, and by the creation of committees the money that is intended for these will not be utilised for any other purpose, and it will not be filtered away. With these remarks, I beg to withdraw the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with leave.

President.—The question before the House is that the supplementary grant of Rs. 12,000 under XXXI-Uplift of the Depressed Classes be voted by the House.

Question put and agreed to.

6. XXIII—Uplift of the Depressed Classes=Cranganur=Rs. 500.

President.—The next is demand No. 6.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 500 under 'XXIII—Uplift of the Depressed Classes, Cranganur.' The remarks that I made with reference to the State schools apply also to those of the Cranganur schools. The circumstances are more or less the same, and the necessity is due to the increase in the number of pupils. The reasons I have given already hold good for Cranganur.

President.—Here also there is an increase in the number of pupils.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There were only 300 pupils at the beginning of the current educational year, and now we have 450. There is only an increase in the number of pupils, and there is no increase in the number of schools.

President.—There are cut motions with regard to this supplementary grant.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of*

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